

not form a part of the scientific name of any species, but, when added, is merely for convenience of reference.

(2) That in the case of the names of all well-known species the "authority" is quite unnecessary and may be altogether omitted.

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XV.—*Obituary.*

Mr. W. H. HUDLESTON.

It is but three months since the four surviving Original Members still on the List of the B.O.U. were presented with Commemorative Medals, and already one has passed from our midst, for we have now to announce, with the greatest regret, the death of Mr. W. H. Hudleston. The following paragraphs are extracted from the full "Life" which he himself wrote last year for the Jubilee Supplement:—

Previous to April 1867 Hudleston was known as Wilfrid Hudleston Simpson, and it was whilst bearing this name that most of his ornithological work was done. He was born at York on the 2nd June, 1828, and spent the years from 1838 to 1843 at the Collegiate School in that city, now St. Peter's School. Those were the days before scientific farming had reduced our fences, and there was a fine field for the bird's-nester.

In 1843 young Simpson went to Uppingham School, being then 15 years of age. Here, for three successive seasons, he indulged in his favourite pursuit in a locality which at that time was certainly favourable to ornithological rambles. Kites had only just disappeared from those large woods which were remnants of the old forest of Rockingham, but some of the local eggs were still preserved in Bell's collection.

The scene now shifts to Cambridge, when the glories of Fenland were already in a transition state. The seasons of 1847, 1848, and 1849 are those with which we have to deal. Simpson spent no small part of his time during the spring months in fen localities, and the area of his operations extended from Whittlesey Mere, on the west, to the fens of

the Little Ouse, on the borders of Norfolk and Suffolk. He was just in time to find some of the Harriers breeding, and notably Montagu's Harrier, which then nested regularly in Feltwell Fen in company with the Short-eared Owl.

The year 1848 was in many ways a memorable one. It was in that year that Simpson first made the acquaintance of Alfred Newton, who had just come up as an undergraduate to Magdalene College, Cambridge. The similarity of their tastes soon made them firm friends, though Newton did not then accompany Simpson in any of his excursions. His principal comrade at this time was a brother Johnian named James E. Law, who had shared in his birds'-nesting experiences at Uppingham, and who ultimately married his eldest sister. When the May term was over, Simpson and Law made a short tour in Northumberland, the programme including a complete day at the Farne Islands on the 15th of June. Sandwich Terns were particularly plentiful in those days, but the eggs of the few Roseate Terns visible were only doubtfully identified. The same party had a delightful day on Cheviot a little later, when they found that the Merlin and Dunlin had already hatched off; but a complete clutch of the Golden Plover was secured from the flat and hassocky summit of the mountain. On the 7th July following, Simpson, who was then visiting his relations in Cumberland, secured a nest of the Dotterel, with its complement of three eggs, on the summit of Robinson Fell near Buttermere.

Simpson took his B.A. degree in January 1850, and forthwith went to reside in London, where he was called to the Bar in 1853. Those years were not prolific in ornithological pursuits, although during a short fishing-trip to the north-west of Ireland, in May 1853, he and his old College chum James Law had the good fortune to secure nests of the Sea-Eagle and Peregrine Falcon from the cliffs of Horn Head in Donegal.

He again took up ornithology seriously in the spring of 1855, and this time at the instance of Alfred Newton,

with whom he had remained in constant touch ever since their first meeting at Cambridge in 1848. The two comrades started from Hull late in May, and, owing to most unseasonable weather, missed the steamer connexion along the Norwegian coast, and so were taken on to Christiania, whence they proceeded overland in a great hurry to Trondhjem, just in time to catch the coasting-steamer that was to take them on to Hammerfest.

When, after an interval of ten days, the rolling 'Gyller' at length arrived in port, two Englishmen, Scott and Torr, were on board, and a merry party of four rounded the Nordkyn together, and ultimately reached Vadsö in the Varanger Fjord, where the hero of Lapland ornithology, John Wolley, shortly made his appearance, fresh from a fortnight's excursion up the Pasvig, in Russian Finland, and this, too, during the Crimean War. The party of three ornithologists, being now complete, lost no time in making their way up the Varanger Fjord, and thence to the valley of the Tana, and so round by the Tana Fjord to Vadsö again. There is no need for any ornithological details, as these may be gathered from the writings of Wolley and Newton, and also from the pages of 'Hewitson.' The same remark applies to the still more prolific region of Central Lapland, at Muoniovara, for instance, which Wolley had made his home. The 'Ootheca Wolleyana' should especially be consulted, for there each egg has its history.

The return journey commenced towards the middle of July, when the three friends committed themselves once more to the rolling 'Gyller,' and were landed at a place on the Lyngen Fjord, whence they made their way across the watershed into Swedish Lapland, and so in boats down the Muonio River to Muoniovara itself.

The homeward journey began on the 8th of September, and the party reached Hull early in October, by way of Haparanda, Stockholm, and Gothenburg.

In the spring of 1856 John Wolley induced Simpson to join him in an expedition to the Isle of Öland, in the Baltic, in quest of the Little Gull, supposed to breed there,

but this turned out to be the Black-headed Gull, and so far the expedition was a failure. Nevertheless, a most interesting campaign was carried on in the watery isle and adjacent coast of Sweden—some of the results being recorded in 'The Ibis' (see "Narrative of the Discovery of some Nests of the Black Woodpecker in Sweden," *Ibis*, 1859, p. 264) and in the '*Ootheca Wolleyana*.'

Probably the most enjoyable excursion in which Simpson shared was that undertaken by Tristram and Salvin in the year 1857. The introduction was effected through the good offices of Alfred Newton; and Salvin and Simpson started together from London early in February to join Tristram, already in North Africa. The three met at Tunis, and some time was spent in that highly interesting country, where archæology and ornithology were alternately in the ascendant.

At the latter end of March the "caravan" started for Algeria, *viâ* the famous valley of Roman ruins, to Kef, and thence over the somewhat lawless borderland to Souk-harras in the province of Constantine. From the day of their leaving Souk-harras, very early in April, to the day of their arrival at Constantine, towards the end of June, the party dwelt constantly in tents, and travelled on horseback from place to place. From an ornithological point of view the country was almost a virgin one, and especially the upper valley of the Medjerdah, where operations first commenced. The country was alive with birds of prey, from the stately Griffon to the querulous Black Kite, and other birds were equally interesting and demonstrative. The wretched "Colon" had not yet potted everything, and there were even lions, long since extinct, for the followers of Jules Gerard to pursue.

The early part of 1858 presents no particular features of interest. Simpson passed a few weeks in Argyllshire, looking out for shootings, and while thus engaged secured nests of the Buzzard and Hen-Harrier.

When the British Ornithologists' Union was formally founded at Cambridge in November 1858, Simpson

and F. D. Godman, with others of the brotherhood, stayed for some little time at the Bull Hotel, in order to take part in the proceedings.

Simpson's latest expeditions in the pursuit of ornithology took place during the years 1859 and 1860, chiefly in Greece, but also to a less extent in that part of Turkey known as the Dobrudscha, which has since become a portion of the State of Rumania. In Greece he had the advantage of the company of Dr. Krüper during part of the time, especially in the neighbourhood of Mesolonghi, where some interesting captures were made. He was able to study the country both in its summer and its winter aspect, and the results of his experiences are recorded in some of the earlier volumes of 'The Ibis.'

Shortly after his return from Turkey, viz. in June 1860, he attended the memorable meeting of the British Association at Oxford, where there was a considerable gathering of original members of the B. O. U. The general results of that meeting are a matter of history, but the more immediate result as regards the ornithologists present was to confirm their leaning towards the doctrine of Evolution, then for the first time brought to the notice of the public.

Simpson made a trip to Switzerland in the spring of 1861, and several interesting finds were the result, such as the Golden Eagle from Ben Laoghal, the Grey-lag Goose from Loch Laoghal, and two or three complete nests of the Greenshank—substantially the last eggs he took.

Henceforth he determined to devote his energies to something more practical, and, as a preliminary course, to undertake his own re-education, so as to be less dependent on classical knowledge only. With this object in view, in the winter of 1862-63, he studied chemistry under Playfair at Edinburgh, where he obtained the University medal in that branch of science. Subsequently, for three successive winters, he continued those studies at the Royal College of Chemistry in London, and ultimately set up his own laboratory in Chelsea, where he was able to conduct mineral analysis on his own account.